

REMARKS

The present Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed March 15, 2010 in the above-identified application.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

There is also being submitted herewith a Petition for an Extension of Time for responding to the Office Action for three (3) months from June 15, 2010 to and including September 15, 2010, together with the request fee estimated to be \$1,110 is submitted herewith.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

The Office Action of March 15, 2010 was made **FINAL**. Accordingly, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) together with the appropriate fee estimated to be \$810 is submitted herewith.

CLAIM FEE

The fee estimated to be \$324 for new Claims 21 and 22, is also submitted herewith.

ADDITIONAL FEE(S)

Please charge any additional fee(s) and credit any overpayments to deposit account no. 01-0035.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

The courtesy extended to applicants' representative, Joseph J. Catanzaro, by Examiner Emmanuel S. Luk during a telephone interview conducted on September 1, 2010 is sincerely appreciated. During the interview, proposed amendments to the claims substantially as submitted herewith, were fully discussed. The interview was facilitated by a draft amendment of the Claims 1-11 and new Claims 12-20, which had been previously transmitted to Examiner Luk by fax. In addition, the distinctions between the claims as amended herein, the invention as recited in the claims as amended herein, and the art cited in the outstanding Office Action, were also discussed.

During a subsequent interview, applicants' representative informed Examiner Luk that new Claims 21 and 22 will be included in the Amendment as filed.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention is patentable over the art cited in the outstanding Office Action, particularly as recited in the claim as amended herein.

THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention relates to a device for molding objects of plastic material, which comprises an injection mold including two half-molds defining in a closed position, a plurality of injection cavities corresponding to the objects. Means is provided for moving the half-molds in reciprocal motion toward and away from each other, defining a closed position and an open position, respectively. An extraction arm is provided for removing objects from the mold. The extraction arm is provided with gripping elements for gripping objects from the mold, and is translatable between a first position inserted into the space between the half-molds when the mold is in an open position, and a second position outside the half-molds.

A conditioning turret has two sides in opposing relation, each side including a group of conditioning cups with means for receiving and retaining molded objects from the extraction arm. The turret is supported for rotational movement about an essentially horizontal axis, followed by vertical displacement from a first higher position under the extraction arm, to a second lower position relatively spaced from the extraction arm.

An extraction table is positioned adjacent the second position of the conditioning turret and has associated therewith, gripping elements positioned, configured and dimensioned for engaging and selectively extracting objects from the conditioning turret cups when the gripping elements of the extraction table are translated along a path generally perpendicular to the rotational axis of the turret.

A major feature of the invention relates to the provision of a conditioning turret which has movements as recited in the claim, combined with an extraction table positioned adjacent the conditioning turret and having associated therewith, gripping elements which are so positioned, configured and dimensioned for engaging and selectively extracting objects from the conditioning turret cups when the gripping elements of the extraction table are translated along a path generally perpendicular to the rotational axis of the turret.

Although the rotational arm of the conditioning turret is preferably horizontal and the turret movement toward the extraction table is preferably vertical, it is within the scope of the present invention to provide alternative orientations for these aspects of the invention. Accordingly new Claims 21 and 22 recite the invention as in Claim 1, without specifying the orientation and relative movement of the conditioning turret.

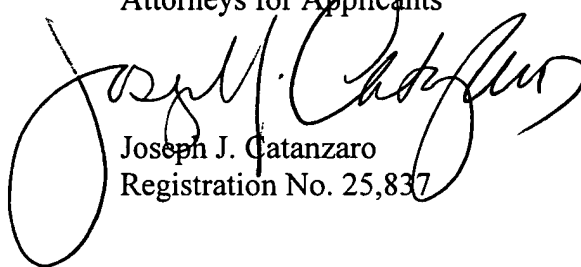
REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103 AND THE CITED ART

In the Office Action Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over published US patent application no. US2003/0003187 of Coran, et al., in view of published US patent application no. US2001/0019730 of van Manen, et al., and US patent no. 6,143,225 to Domodossola, et al. Each of these patent and patent publications were fully discussed and distinguished from the present invention in the Amendment filed January 19, 2010. The comments and remarks with respect to those publications are repeated herein with respect to the outstanding rejections in the outstanding Office Action of March 15, 2010.

Also, the cited patent and patent publications were fully discussed in the Office Action mailed March 15, 2010.

With respect to the outstanding Office Action and the rejections contained therein, the claims as amended are respectively submitted to be in condition for allowance. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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